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REMINISCENCES OF HONOLULU.

By E. H. J.

On the 23d of January, 1839, the volcano of Mauna Loa broke out with, doubtless, the greatest eruption ever witnessed by mortal eyes. The new crater was situated on the north side of the mountain, at an elevation above the sea of some 10,000 feet, whence the liquid lava flowed at such a rapid pace that it reached the sea at Waimanalo, about midway between Kewahae and Kailua, and some forty miles from the crater, in the space of eight days. At first the people of Honolulu, who had been a repetition of the danger that had threatened them in 1855, as the new crater was apparently not far from the one of that year, and the flow seemed to be running parallel with the former one. But it was soon apparent that the numerous streams into which the lava branched out, were all tending to the west of north, following the slope between the two mountains, Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa, and to the westward of Honolulu.

On receipt of the news of the eruption, at Honolulu, parties of excursionists enlarking for the scene were hurriedly made up, cheerfully facing the discomforts and delays of a schooner navigation, for there were no inter-island steamers then, in anticipation of the grandeur and sublimity of the scene that awaited them. The best point from which to proceed to the flow was the village of Kailua, in Kona. Among the tourists were Professor Alexander, of Oahu College, H. M. Whitney of the *Advertiser*, and A. F. Judd, the present Chief Justice. I cannot do better in giving my readers an idea of this wonderful eruption, than to transcribe some of the accounts as written at the time by those who were favored in witnessing it:

"Our camping ground is located on the elevated table land lying between the two great mountains of Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa, sixteen miles from Kailua, and some ten miles in an air line from the crater, which lies over against us on the side of Mauna Loa, distinctly in view. This plain is some 5,000 feet above the level of the sea."

During the day time the light of the crater and the lava streams are hardly perceptible. It is the time for observation. Soon after the sun had set, the molten streams began to show their courses, while the spouting of the lava from the crater became more and more distinct. The reflection of the numerous fiery streams rolling rapidly down the side of the mountain and across the plain, lit up the over-hanging clouds, making it as bright as daylight for many miles around. As night advanced, and every little stream and light became more distinct, the scene was grand, more so than any I have ever witnessed.

"Come, music, with thy sweet mysterious power, And breathe a spell upon this passing hour." Rubenstein is to write a march for the coronation of the Czar of Russia.

Venezuela is making efforts to obtain a national hymn. The musical necrology of 1883 bids fair to be very large. List has decided not to appear as a public concert player in any country. He claims that his 72 years disable him as a pianist.

Patti receives \$4,400 for every performance. As she is on the stage about two hours at every entertainment this should give her about \$33 per minute for singing.

Mr. Isaac Woodward, of the firm of Woodward & Brown, piano-makers, Boston, Mass., is dead. There are quite a large number of his firm's pianos in this island.

Dr. Eben Tourgie who founded the New England conservatory of music in Boston, has presented that institution to the Board of Trustees. It is the largest conservatory in the world.

Gustave Dore, the lately deceased painter, was also passionately fond of music, his favorite instrument being the violin.

The best musician is he who masters the art in its entirety, and devotes his effort to what is best and noblest in it. The perfect musician is made through the knowledge of both the instrumental and vocal art. When pupils take lessons, they should show their appreciation of their teacher's worth by industry, application and the most level playing.

Pupils ought to expect to receive a good and thorough lesson from their teacher. They should remember that very little can be done for them if the previous lesson has not been practiced and well acquired.

Wagner memorial concerts are being held all over the world. Richard Wagner was born in Leipzig, May 22d, 1813, and commenced his musical studies at a very early age. His principal works are "The Mastersingers of Nuremberg," "The Flying Dutchman," "Lohengrin" and "Parsifal." Wagner, it will be remembered composed the "Grand Centennial March," that was performed in Philadelphia on the first day of the Centennial Exhibition.

On the March 13th has played an important role in Wagner's life. He was born in 1813, and it was on March 13th, 1869, that "Tannhauser" failed in Paris. Wagner died after 13 years of wedded life, and upon the 13th of February. Finally the number of letters that compose his name is 13.

The *Anglican Chronicle* speaks of a hymnal service given in the Episcopal Church on Easter Monday evening, and adds that it was an improvement on the organ recital. A correspondent suggests: "Perhaps so, but one people's musical abilities are so dull that organ music is really too much for them to understand and appreciate."

Make our young men musicians, musicians in the true sense of the word, and the rum-shop, the billiard saloon, and other questionable resorts, will be chased out of the greater part of their customers. Unfortunately, it is a wide-spread opinion among business men and others that it will incapacitate a boy for business, make him volatile, and unfit to meet the exigencies of this hard, matter-of-fact life, if we teach him music. Nothing could be more erroneous. As sure as the study of the classic writers of ancient and modern times will benefit a young man by elevating his mind, giving him moral strength and consciousness of his inhumanity, just so sure will the thorough understanding of the words and the immortal masters of music ennoble his character and take most earnest and beneficent hold of his soul and heart.

Lord Dufferin is now very busy reorganizing Egypt's government. He, more than the Khedive, is ruler of Egypt. How complete this organization will be cannot yet be told, but it will certainly be a great improvement over anything Egypt has had for many years. Who will carry out this planned improvement? The Khedive is altogether unequal to the task, even if he had the cordial and vigorous support of all his subjects. No one can be in Egypt long without seeing that the native population is incapable of any present successful self-government. American residents in Egypt are in favor of continued English occupation and government.

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